though not a short one, having lasted above four-teen hours. The custom-house officers were easy and indulgent, and the journey, without exception, the most delightful that can be made in France.

Yet, in spite of all these advantages, I do not think I shall ever go the Dieppe way again. There is no harbour on the English side, and one must submit to be tossed about in a boat for the space of two miles, going or coming; with the chance of being perhaps thirty or forty hours beating across the Channel.

I have taken a *campagne* at Le Menil, about a league north of St. Germain, just above Maisons. The house is well furnished, with twenty acres of pleasure and kitchen garden, and all possible con-veniences. There is a door that opens into the forest, and the finest view imaginable. We shall remove to it the first week in October, but mean to have a small *pied-a-terre* at Paris, where we may come for pleasure or business.

This city is not quite such a desert at this time of the year as London, yet it is ten to one you do not find the person you want in town. The *Spectacles* are in a very poor

plight, both as to actors and compositions.

The improvements made and making in the buildings are astonishing, though not always in